(iii) Development of International Hostels and facilities in Agricultural Universities.

(iv) Introduction of Deficiency Courses for developing proficiency in English language.

(d) 73.

Assistance under Agricultural Scheme to NGOs

†1048. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:
SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being run by the Ministry of Agriculture under which financial assistance is provided to Non-Governmental Organisations;

(b) the details of funds allocated to Bihar and Chhattisgarh, organisation-wise and scheme-wise, during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide benefit of these schemes at village level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Bovine Development Scheme

†1049. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate or have formulated any rural development schemes for protecting, tending and breeding of bovine in different States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) A national Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding has been formulated and implemented from October, 2000 to provide Artificial Insemination services at door-steps of the farmers/

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

breeders, progressively bring the breedable bovine females under Artificial Insemination or natural service by use of high quality bulls, preserve and improve indigenous bovines and training inseminators and professionals for carrying out the A.I. Programme.

A sum of Rs. 61.75 crores have been provided as 100% Central grant to 15 States for strengthening/establishing the breeding infrastructure and providing improved breeding services to the breedable cows and buffaloes.

Productivity of agriculture sector

†1050. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have explored the possibilities of augmenting the existing productivity of agricultural sector in the country;

(b) if so, what is the maximum level of productivity and at which places it is possible;

(c) what is the level of productivity in irrigated and non-irrigated lands at present; and

(d) what are the maximum and minimum levels of productivity in the country and at which place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is conducting research and frontline demonstration in the areas of biotechnology, crop improvement, improvement of input use efficiency (fertilizer, water, tillage, agro-chemicals, etc.), horticulture, fisheries and all the other related sectors for augmenting the existing levels of productivity.

(b) The maximum level of productivity through rice-wheat cropping system is possible at the level of about 14 tonnes per hectare per annum. This is possible in the irrigated tract of Indo Gangetic plains. However, at the farm level the grain yields of the order of about 8.5 tonnes per hectare per annum are being realized by a large number of progressive farmers.

(c) The estimates of productivity separately for irrigated and unirrigated areas are not maintained at all India level.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.